

Transcript Prepared by Clerk of the Legislature Transcribers Office
Appropriations Committee February 8, 2024
Agency 78, Crime Commission
Rough Draft

WISHART: And we are going to open the hearing for Agency 78.

LEE WILL: You ready, Vice Chair?

WISHART: Yes.

LEE WILL: Vice Chair Wishart, members of the Appropriations Committee, my name is Lee Will, L-e-e W-i-l-l, and I'm the state budget administrator for the state of Nebraska. I'm appearing today on behalf of Bryan Tuma, the executive director of Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, who cannot be here today. On behalf of the Crime Commission, I wish to offer testimony in support of Governor Pillen's mid-biennial recommendation for '24 and '25. The Crime Commission is seeking an increase to personal service limitation, or PSL, in the amount of \$154,000 in '24 and \$159,000 in '25. The PSL increase is requested for 2 positions assigned to delivering several criminal justice program requirements. This is only a PSL change and not an ask for additional funding. The agency agrees with the Governor's recommendation to lapse \$1.3 million in General Fund reappropriation in Program 199, the Law Enforcement Training Center. for FY '24. Even after this lapse, the program has sufficient carryover to cover encumbrances and other obligations from the previous fiscal year. In LB1014 in 2022, the Legislature provided \$47.7 million in federal, federal ARPA funding to the Crime Commission to enhance and expand the training capabilities of the Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island. The project includes a new driving track, an indoor shooting range, and other facility upgrades. To date, the agency has expended nearly \$1 million and obligated an additional \$3.3 million. These costs are primarily designed and-- are primarily designed and planning related with construction due beginning this summer. It is anticipated the agency will have all these ARPA funds obligated by the end of '24 and expended by the end of 2026. I'd be happy to take any questions.

WISHART: Any questions? Senator Dorn.

DORN: Thank you, Senator Wishart. Thank you for being here. So the \$47.7 million, I mean, we just heard how much of a cost increase it was.

LEE WILL: That's fair.

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DORN: What do you think this-- any idea or have they had conversations with you about this coming in [INAUDIBLE]?

LEE WILL: We must have had a little bit better consulting on the front end, because our costs are coming in pretty close to the \$47.7 million, yeah. Thank you sir.

WISHART: Any other questions? I was going to ask something similar. During the ARPA hearing, we heard a potential that they were coming in under budget. Is that not the case anymore?

LEE WILL: Yeah, I think there could be about a \$2 to \$3 million fluctuation in there, full transparency. But we do think with construction costs, other things that \$2 to \$3 million buffer can get eroded rather quickly. So until we get to see the final bids, I can't tell you that there's 2, \$2 million there. I think it's probably going to come in right at \$47.7 if I had to put my budget hat on. Thank you.

WISHART: Thank you. Any other questions? Well, thanks for being here.

LEE WILL: Yeah. Thanks. Appreciate it.

WISHART: OK. Any other testifiers to Agency 78? I'll get that number right this time. OK. Seeing none, any-- no comments so that closes the hearing for Agency 78.